[*Vide* REPLY TO CLAUSE (*a*) OF UN-STARRED QUESTION No. 7 (18)]

	Place		Bed Strength
1.	S.D.S. Sanatoriam, Bangalore	...	470 beds
2	Government T. B. Sanatorium, Bangalore	...	234 beds
3.	Government Wellesley T. B. Sanatorium Bellary	...	288 beds
4.	T. B. Sanatorium, Bijapur	...	100 beds
5.	T. B. Sanatorium, Malasamudra Gadag Taluk	...	62 beds
6.	K. N. Sanatorium, Kolar	...	264 beds
7,	M.G.M.T.B. Sanatorium, B. Hosur, Mandya	...	100 beds
8.	P.K. Sanatorium, Mysore	...	470 beds
9.	T. B. Sanatorium, Mudushedde (Dakshina Kannada)	...	100 beds
10.	T. B. Hospital, Davanagere	...	32 beds

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(*i*) *Re: Preventing harijans from taking drinking water from public well in Eklara village, Aurad Taluk.*

SRI MANIK RAO PATIL (Aurad).—I wish to call the attention of the Minister for Panchayat Raj to the serious situation that has arisen in Eklara village, Taluk Aurad, District Bidar due to preventing Harijans from taking drinking water from the public well.

SRI K. PRABHAKAR (Minister for Rural Development and Panchayathi Raj)—I wish to make the following statement.

The Deputy Commissioner, Bidar, has made a detailed enquiry regarding the prevention of the Harijans of Eklara village, Aurad Taluk, Bidar District, for taking drinking water from the Public well, The enquiry revealed that the well in question is not a regular well but only a pit well dug in the area where water table is high. It is stated that during scarcity period this pit well is being used for drawing water by the villagers for the last many years. This pit well is situated in a private land bearing S. No. 60/G of Sri Gyanoba. The Deputy Commissioner has stated that at present the Harijans as well as Chirstians of the village are drawing water from the same pit well, though there was an objection from the above-mentioned person for the drawal of water by everyone in the village in the initial stages, irrespective of the fact whether the persons are harijans or others.

To solve the problem of drinking water, it is stated that the Deputy Commissioner, Bidar,has already issued instruc'ions to acquire the land in question for house sites so that the Pit well could be converted into a proper well with steining and declared as a public well by Government. The police has also been alerted by the Deputy Commissioner and a close watch has been kept. The situation is stated to be peaceful now.

SRI MANIK RAO PATIL.—On the complaint on the land lord criminal proceedings have been instituted against number of harijans and Christians. I would like to know from the Government in view of the statement, will the Government think of withdrawing all those proceedings against Harijans and Christians ?

SRI K. PRABHAKAR.—The Government will take every action as it is stated that the situation is quiet and the problem is under control and the said land is proposed for acquisition.

SRI MANIK RAO PATIL —My specific question is that during the course of this dispute number of criminal proceedings have been instituted against Harijans of the village. Now the Government has come to the conclusion that the matter has been settled and the well is going to be acquired for public use. In view of the situation will the Government withdraw all those proceedings which have been instituted against them?

SRI K. PRABHAKAR.—The matter will be examined and the best will be done.

SRI MANIK RAO PATIL.—I do not understand the word 'Examination' when the Government has agreed that everything is okay. Therefore, what it is the difficulty in withdrawing those criminal proceedings when Harijans are suffering every day by attending court ?

SRI K. PRABHAKAR,—Now the hon. Member has brought the matter to the notice of the Government. While withdrawing the cases it cannot be readily accepted without examining the nature and the circumstances of the case. With all sympathy, I can say that the situation will be examined and the best will be done in the interest of the Sufferers.

re : reported assault on an electrician at the Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital, Bangalore.

SRI GOVIND P. VADEYARAJ (Kamalapur).—Madam Speaker, I wish to call the attention of the Minister for Health and Family Welfare, to the reported assault on an electrictian at the Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital, Bangalore.